WASHINGTON, D.C. – Today, Congressman Kevin McCarthy announced the San Luis Obispo County recipients of the 22nd Congressional District of California Merit Award:

- Miss Jessica Bell Atascadero High School
- Mr. Aaron Evans Coastal Christian School
- Miss Molly Ann Sheplay North County Christian School
- Mr. Brent Edelman Paso Robles High School
- Miss Elva Bustamante Shandon High School
- Miss Caroline Hottinger –Templeton High School

"The Merit Award honors the achievements of our communities' best and brightest, and recognizes their positive achievements and inspires all of our students to work toward their goals," said Congressman McCarthy. "By coming together and recognizing these students, I believe we help to create a positive community environment that supports the hard work of the next generation's leaders."

Earlier this year, high school principals were invited to select one outstanding graduating senior per school to receive the 22nd Congressional District of California Merit Award. The Merit Award was created by Congressman McCarthy to recognize outstanding high school students who have demonstrated academic excellence, exemplary school citizenship, volunteerism, community service, involvement in extracurricular activities, leadership skills, and have earned a 3.5 GPA or higher.

Merit Award Presentation Ceremony:
Thursday, May 28, 2009
4:00p.m. – 5:00 p.m. (PDT)
Atascadero Unified School District Office (Board Room)
5601 West Mall
Atascadero, CA 93422

###